45TH CONGRESS, 2d Session. } SENATE. { Ex. Doc. No. 98.

MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

RECOMMENDING

An appropriation for the payment of certain expenses of the commissioners appointed to attend the conference provided for in the act of February 28, 1878, to authorize the coinage of the standard silver dollar and to restore its legal-tender character.

JUNE 13, 1878.—Read, referred to the Committee on Appropriations, and ordered to be printed.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In transmitting, herewith, to Congress a communication from the Secretary of State on the subject of the conference provided for in the act of February 28, 1878, entitled "An act to authorize the coinage of the standard silver dollar, and to restore its legal-tender character," I respectfully recommend that an adequate appropriation be made for certain expenses of the conference and of the commissioners attending the same on behalf of the United States, as suggested in the communication of the Secretary of State.

R. B. HAYES.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, *June* 12, 1878.

To the PRESIDENT:

The Secretary of State has the honor to report that of the foreign governments invited, pursuant to the act of Congress of the 28th of February last, to join the United States in a conference to adopt a common ratio between gold and silver for the purpose of establishing internationally the use of bi-metallic money, those of the following countries have formally accepted the invitation of this government:

France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, The Netherlands, Russia, and Switzerland.

Further, that the remainder of the countries invited, viz, Austria, Belgium, Germany, and Great Britain, although not yet decided, are giving the matter serious consideration.

With regard to the capital to be designated for the meeting of the proposed conference, France has proposed Paris, Russia has expressed a preference for a European city, and The Netherlands leaves the question to the decision of the United States.

The acceptance of the invitation of this government by so many European nations will make it the duty of the President, under the pro-

visions of the act, to nominate to the Senate the commissioners to attend the conference on the part of the United States. In this connection it is respectfully submitted that some provision should be made for the due proportion of the general expenses of the conference which should be borne by this government, as well as for a secretary and other clerical assistants to the commissioners of the United States in their attendance upon the conference.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. M. EVARTS.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, June 10, 1878.

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